



Photo by Senior Airman Sarayuth Pinthong, 8th CS/VI

Several VIPs visited the Wolf Pack in 2000 including Secretary of Defense William Cohen. The secretary stopped to visit Kunsan troops Sept. 21 during a six-nation Asian-Pacific trip. Following Cohen's comments to the troops at Hanger 3, Col. Philip Breedlove, 8th Fighter Wing commander, told the secretary: "The men and women of the Wolf Pack are ready, willing and able to carry out our mission. I would like to take you out to meet the best wing in the United States Air Force!"



Photo by Senior Airman Sarayuth Pinthong, 8th CS/VI

Secretary of the Air Force Whit Peters served up a mighty Thanksgiving Day feast to Wolf Pack warriors at the O'Malley Dining Facility Nov. 23. Peters described the U.S. presence here as being the "tip" of the spear and said he was honored to be able to serve turkey to the troops serving at the Wolf Pack.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Terry Blevins, 3rd CS/VI

FOAL EAGLE 2000 proved Kunsan's ability as warriors. Wolf Pack airmen and soldiers, Pacific Air Forces airmen from eight other bases, U.S. Navy SEALs, Army Rangers and U.S. Air Force Guard and Reserve units participated in the exercise Oct. 25 – Nov. 3. The exercise allowed Kunsan to put air base ground defense and sortie production capabilities to the test proving the Wolf Pack is a first-rate team. During the exercise, more than 900 follow-on forces from all mission functional areas descended upon Kunsan and integrated into base operations in less than two weeks. The expanded Wolf Pack team never skipped a beat and adopted the "One Team, One Fight!" warrior mentality from the outset.



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For years Kunsan has experienced scheduled weekly protests of 30 to 40 people outside its gates. However, the numbers of people and protests increased, averaging more than 150 people in August. The scene was more common at other U.S. military installations across the peninsula. The reasons behind the protests and organized demonstrations cited U.S. military contamination of water in Seoul, dissatisfaction with the Status of Forces Agreement and encroachment on Korean farm land; others simply stated American troops had worn out their welcome.



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Wolf Pack takes a look back at 2000

Compiled by 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The year 2000 was busy for the Wolf Pack. New warriors arrived at the base every month, the pack battled the enemy in FOAL EAGLE and faced Mother Nature when Kunsan received mudslides after record rainfalls. The Wolf Pack welcomed the Block-40 F-16s as well as several distinguished visitors, such as Secretary of Defense William Cohen, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael Ryan and Secretary Whit Peters.

Here are some events that occurred throughout 2000.

Remember when: Gen. Michael Ryan, Air Force chief of staff, visited the Wolf Pack March 22. Ryan discussed several issues of importance to people assigned to Kunsan, including hazardous duty pay, non-chargeable leave after a remote, and quality of life improvements.

Remember when: The Air Force announced March 24 that Kunsan was the Commander-in-Chief's Installation Excellence Award winner for 2000. Kunsan received \$1 million for quality of life improvements for the base. Kunsan was recognized for a wide range of improvements to work and living areas on base.

Remember when: Former 80th Fighter Squadron commander Col. Philip Breedlove assumed command of the 8th Fighter Wing May 23.

Remember when: Three Wolf Pack airmen were injured in a head-on collision en route to A-Town July 15. The Army and Air Force Exchange Service taxi they were riding in collided with a privately-owned vehicle off base. All three airmen and the taxi driver escaped major injury by wearing their seat belts.

Remember when: Much of Kunsan Air Base flooded after experiencing heavy rains that exceeded 23 inches Aug. 24 – 27. The rainfall accumulation set a monthly record for total precipitation in August at Kunsan. The rainfall broke a record set in 1974.

In addition to road flooding, numerous Kunsan facilities flooded or had leaks, including flying support and base support facilities, Wolf Pack team members worked hard to ensure Kunsan Air Base continued to be mission capable throughout the week. After experiencing more than 23 inches of rain the week prior, the Wolf Pack took on Mother Nature a second time Aug. 31 and Sept. 1 with Typhoon Prapiroon. The typhoon blew into Kunsan Air Base with maximum wind gusts of 67 mph, but released a mere 1.85 inches of rain. Fortunately, no major damage occurred.

Remember when: The dining facilities opened their doors Oct. 1 to the base members who receive Basic Allowance for Subsistence. This change in the system improved customer service.



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Above: The 8th Fighter Wing's mission took a major step forward when the first three of 21 Block-40 F-16 Fighting Falcons landed here Nov. 17. Block-40s significantly enhance the Wing's warfighting capability by adding a Low Altitude Navigation Targeting Infrared Night (LANTIRN) system, which enables pilots to hit enemy targets day or night.

Left: Kunsan members demonstrated their concern about the local community in 2000. After record August rainfalls, base civil engineering airmen and Republic of Korea military members cleared 2,600 tons of debris on Highway 26. Also, more than 300 base volunteers helped clean up Eunpa lake Sept. 23. Wing leadership also formed a new Kunsan Friendship Alliance which gives local civic leaders a better understanding of the U.S. military mission.